

Louisiana Believes

Increasing Student Access to Financial Aid Planning

Financial Aid Policy

Students graduating spring 2018 and beyond must have taken one of the following steps as part of their graduation requirements:

- Submit the [FAFSA](#)
- Complete the [Louisiana TOPS form](#)
- Submit an opt-out [non-participation form](#)
- Receive a [waiver](#) through school system

Several resources are available on the [Financial Aid web page](#) to support schools in ensuring students meet this graduation requirement.

LOSFA's [Complete to Compete](#) tool is a way to track school *completion* rates.

Please email LDEFinancialAid@la.gov with questions.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Students will be able to submit a 2019-2020 FAFSA as early as October 1, 2018.
- The financial aid application process is more aligned with the college application process.
- Students could potentially be eligible for additional federal, state, institutional aid.

FAFSA

- School counselors should begin speaking to students about the benefits and financial costs associated with postsecondary education and training in their freshmen and sophomore years of high school.
- School counselors and students should be informed about the circumstances in which a student may complete a FAFSA and receive financial aid without his/her parents' cooperation.
- Schools should seek out partnerships with Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), higher education institutions, and financial aid assistance groups to assist with the FAFSA process.

What are my options?

FAFSA submission can be used to attend traditional colleges and universities, but also many other schools and programs.

Truck Driving Academies

Culinary Schools

Fashion Design Schools

Technical Schools (Electrical, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration etc.)

Cosmetology and Barbering Schools

Process Technology Programs

and many more...

2017-2018 School Year

- How did Louisiana stack up to the rest of U.S. in FAFSA Completion?



#FormYourFuture FAFSA Tracker

Through June 29, what percent of your state's seniors had completed a FAFSA? What is your state's change year-over-year?



% of Seniors Completing FAFSA

	Rank as of Jun 29, 2018	% of Class Completed FAFSA	'18-'19 Completers	'17-'18 12th Grade Enrollment	% of HS with No Data to Date
LOUISIANA	1	77.1%	37,841	49,088	3.8%
TENNESSEE	2	76.6%	56,016	73,081	7.4%
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	3	71.4%	3,497	4,900	4.9%
DELAWARE	4	69.6%	6,949	10,137	5.6%
MASSACHUSETTS	5	67.2%	51,379	76,458	7.4%
NEW JERSEY	6	67.1%	70,347	104,814	5.7%
KENTUCKY	7	65.4%	31,043	47,465	10.4%
RHODE ISLAND	8	64.3%	7,226	11,244	6.9%
CONNECTICUT	9	64.2%	28,077	43,703	4.3%
NEW YORK	10	64.1%	139,113	217,090	6.1%
ILLINOIS	11	64.1%	69,323	105,038	4.2%
MISSISSIPPI	12	63.6%	20,943	32,906	4.8%
MAINE	13	63.5%	8,998	14,162	6.1%
OHIO	14	62.2%	77,336	124,332	6.8%
WEST VIRGINIA	15	60.7%	11,362	18,708	4.1%
MARYLAND	16	60.0%	39,024	65,054	6.3%
SOUTH CAROLINA	17	59.2%	29,550	49,932	7.0%
HAWAII	18	59.1%	8,238	13,946	7.4%
PENNSYLVANIA	19	59.0%	86,552	146,659	6.0%
NORTH CAROLINA	20	58.7%	62,715	106,788	7.7%
ARKANSAS	21	58.6%	19,474	33,212	3.6%
GEORGIA	22	58.3%	67,392	115,630	9.8%
SOUTH DAKOTA	23	57.8%	5,390	9,319	5.1%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	24	57.0%	5,135	9,877	3.3%
VIRGINIA	25	57.0%	59,151	96,773	7.0%
MICHIGAN	26	56.6%	67,133	118,554	9.1%
INDIANA	27	56.4%	46,229	81,947	5.2%
IOWA	28	56.3%	22,160	39,338	4.3%
MISSOURI	29	56.3%	40,347	71,702	7.3%
CALIFORNIA	30	56.0%	286,974	512,204	11.9%
ALABAMA	31	54.7%	29,833	54,602	5.4%
NEBRASKA	32	54.5%	14,577	26,609	4.8%
TEXAS	33	54.5%	190,271	349,078	8.3%
WISCONSIN	34	54.0%	38,198	70,774	3.9%
MONTANA	35	53.9%	5,328	9,882	10.7%
FLORIDA	36	53.4%	109,637	205,451	14.6%
VERMONT	37	53.3%	3,723	6,985	8.3%
KANSAS	38	51.0%	16,653	36,602	6.0%
OREGON	39	50.9%	28,050	49,016	7.5%
OKLAHOMA	40	50.0%	22,266	44,028	7.8%
NEW MEXICO	41	50.6%	10,964	21,687	10.6%
MINNESOTA	42	50.2%	37,639	74,982	9.4%
NORTH DAKOTA	43	49.7%	3,890	7,829	14.7%
IDAHO	44	49.5%	11,069	22,354	7.8%
NEVADA	45	49.3%	16,318	33,063	5.8%
WYOMING	46	48.0%	3,067	6,392	15.3%
COLORADO	47	47.0%	32,645	69,503	8.9%
WASHINGTON	48	46.1%	40,992	88,999	8.0%
ARIZONA	49	43.0%	37,871	88,070	14.0%

2017-2018 School Year



#FormYourFuture FAFSA Tracker

Through June 29, what percent of your state's seniors had completed a FAFSA? What is your state's change year-over-year?



Building Connections. Advancing Equity. Promoting Success.

% Change in Completions Year-Over-Year

	Rank as of Jun 29 2018	Year-Over-Year % Change	'18-'19 Completers	'17-'18 12th Grade Enrollment	% of HS with No Data to Date
LOUISIANA	1	25.9%	37,841	49,088	0.0%
NEVADA	2	10.7%	16,318	133,068	0.0%
RHODE ISLAND	3	7.2%	7,226	112,444	0.0%
ALABAMA	4	2.9%	29,833	145,002	0.0%
MISSISSIPPI	5	2.0%	20,943	109,006	0.0%
ARIZONA	6	3.4%	37,871	82,070	0.0%
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	7	2.8%	2,974	51,304	0.0%
CALIFORNIA	8	6.7%	7,392	115,630	0.0%
GEORGIA	9	2.9%	29,650	49,932	0.0%
SOUTH CAROLINA	10	1.0%	11,069	22,354	0.0%
IDAHO	11	2.7%	62,715	106,788	0.0%
NORTH CAROLINA	11	1.0%	109,637	205,451	0.0%
FLORIDA	11	6.9%	6,949	10,137	0.0%
DELAWARE	11	3.9%	3,024	6,054	0.0%
MARYLAND	11	5.1%	15,151	29,773	0.0%
VIRGINIA	11	1.9%	19,271	34,078	0.0%
TEXAS	11	4.0%	40,992	88,999	0.0%
WASHINGTON	11	1.3%	139,113	217,090	0.0%
NEW YORK	11	2.2%	22,160	39,338	0.0%
IOWA	11	14.5%	14,577	20,809	0.0%
NEBRASKA	11	3.2%	3,645	6,503	0.0%
COLORADO	11	9.9%	9,329	155,038	0.0%
ILLINOIS	11	3.1%	31,043	47,465	0.0%
KENTUCKY	11	6.2%	6,238	7,346	0.0%
HAWAII	11	7.7%	7,336	7,081	0.0%
TENNESSEE	11	1.7%	17,041	124,332	0.0%
OHIO	11	7.0%	70,347	47,997	0.0%
UTAH	11	3.8%	38,198	104,814	0.0%
NEW JERSEY	11	3.7%	37,639	70,774	0.0%
WISCONSIN	11	3.7%	37,639	74,982	0.0%
MINNESOTA	11	1.8%	18,653	36,602	0.0%
KANSAS	11	6.9%	6,939	14,162	0.0%
MAINE	11	2.4%	24,910	49,319	0.0%
SOUTH DAKOTA	11	9.1%	9,135	16,819	0.0%
OREGON	11	6.7%	6,713	118,554	0.0%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	11	5.1%	5,137	76,458	0.0%
MICHIGAN	11	8.6%	8,652	146,659	0.0%
MASSACHUSETTS	11	4.0%	40,347	71,702	0.0%
PENNSYLVANIA	11	2.8%	28,077	43,703	0.0%
MISSOURI	11	2.2%	22,266	44,028	0.0%
CONNECTICUT	11	1.9%	19,474	33,217	0.0%
OKLAHOMA	11	5.9%	5,938	9,498	0.0%
ARKANSAS	11	1.9%	19,474	33,217	0.0%
MONTANA	11	1.0%	10,964	21,687	0.0%
ALASKA	11	1.1%	11,362	18,708	0.0%
NEW MEXICO	11	3.7%	3,723	6,986	0.0%
WEST VIRGINIA	11	3.0%	3,067	6,392	0.0%
VERMONT	11	4.6%	4,629	8,147	0.0%
WYOMING	11	4.6%	4,629	8,147	0.0%
INDIANA	11	4.6%	4,629	8,147	0.0%

2017-18 FAFSA Submission Data

Final numbers from STS-data from USDOE and district self-reporting

Catahoula Parish 100%
East Carroll Parish 100%
Jackson Parish 99%
Madison Parish 98%
West Baton Rouge Parish 98%
Iberville Parish 97%
Orleans Parish 97%
St. John the Baptist Parish 96%
St. Helena Parish 96%
West Carroll Parish 94%
Plaquemines Parish 94%
St. Charles Parish 94%
Natchitoches Parish 93%
Red River Parish 93%
East Feliciana Parish 93%
Washington Parish 92%
Rapides Parish 92%
Avoyelles Parish 92%
East Baton Rouge Parish 92%
City of Baker Dist. 91%
Bienville Parish 91%
Livingston Parish 91%
City of Monroe Dist. 90%

Zachary Community Dist. 90%
St. James Parish 89%
St. Tammany Parish 89%
Franklin Parish 88%
Evangeline Parish 88%
Pointe Coupee Parish 88%
Sabine Parish 87%
Morehouse Parish 86%
Winn Parish 86%
Caddo Parish 85%
Grant Parish 85%
St. Landry Parish 85%
Lafayette Parish 85%
Tangipahoa Parish 84%
Assumption Parish 83%
Jefferson Parish 83%
Webster Parish 83%
Caldwell Parish 83%
West Feliciana Parish 82%
St. Mary Parish 82%
Ascension Parish 82%
Vernon Parish 82%
Beauregard Parish 81%

LaSalle Parish 81%
City of Bogalusa Dist. 81%
Allen Parish 81%
Ouachita Parish 81%
Bossier Parish 80%
Lincoln Parish 80%
Central Community Dist. 80%
Cameron Parish 80%
LaFourche Parish 79%
Tensas Parish 79%
DeSoto Parish 76%
Concordia Parish 75%
Jefferson Davis Parish 74%
St. Bernard Parish 73%
Richland Parish 73%
Union Parish 73%
St. Martin Parish 72%
Calcasieu Parish 72%
Acadia Parish 71%
Vermilion Parish 69%
Iberia Parish 68%
Claiborne Parish 64%
Terrebonne Parish 63%

FAFSA Completion Success Strategies

- Superintendents, supervisors, and principals should stress the importance and benefits of completing the application to students and parents.
- Remind parents about FAFSA with “Save the Date” cards.
- Send out robo calls along with text messages to remind students.
- Offer some time during the school day for parents to stop in to receive assistance.
- Offer T-shirts or food.

FAFSA Completion Success Strategies

- JAG Specialist assistance
- Start talking to parents about FAFSA completion in August or September
- Hold Senior/Graduation Night after October 1 and incorporate FAFSA
- School or classroom competitions
- Partner with athletic events to encourage parent participation
- Partner with financial aid assistance groups: LOSFA, LELA, Career Compass, etc.

Resources

- [LDE Financial Aid web page](#)
- [Regional Financial Aid Calendar of Events](#)
- LDE Financial Aid Unit
- [LOSFA](#)
- Partnering with higher education institutions
- Financial Aid Assistance Groups ([LELA](#), [Career Compass](#), College & Career Transitions Coordinators)

Questions
Email

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